ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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2   A method for classifying tangible art objects using a classification code such that the

3   value of a given asset may be readily determined. The basic steps of the classification method of

4   the present invention include providing a database for storage of information regarding a given

5   asset, establishing within the database one or more order categories, identifying each order

6   category with a first identifier, determining which order categories describes the given asset,

7   designating the given asset as being classified by the order category which best describes the

8   given asset in the database, and assigning the applicable first identifier to the given asset.

9   One or more family categories may then be established such that the given asset may be

10   further classified. Once family categories have been established, each family category is

11   identified with a second identifier. It is then determined, based upon the stored information

12   concerning the given asset, what family category describes the given asset. Once the applicable

13   family category is determined, the given asset is designated as being described by the applicable

14   family category. The second identifier corresponding to the applicable family category may then

15   be assigned to the given asset and the first and second identifiers may be combined to define an

16   identifier code.

17   One or more genus categories may then be established such that the given asset may be

18   further classified. Once genus categories have been established, each genus category is

19   identified with a third identifier. It is then determined, based upon the stored information

20   concerning the given asset, what genus category describes the given asset. Once the applicable

21   genus category is determined, the given asset is designated as being described by the applicable

22   genus category. The third identifier corresponding to the applicable genus category may then be

1   assigned to the given asset and the first, second and third identifiers may be combined to further

2   define the identifier code.

3   One or more species categories may then be established such that the given asset may be

4   further classified. Once species categories have been established, each species category is

5   identified with a fourth identifier. It is then determined, based upon the stored information

6   concerning the given asset, what species category describes the given asset. Once the applicable

7   species category is determined, the given asset is designated as being described by the applicable

8   species category. The fourth identifier corresponding to the applicable species category may then

9   be assigned to the given asset and the first, second, third, and fourth identifiers may be combined

10   to further define the identifier code.

11   One or more sub-species categories may then be established such that the given asset may

12   be further classified. Once sub-species categories have been established, each sub-species

13   category is identified with a fifth identifier. It is then determined, based upon the stored

14   information concerning the given asset, what sub-species category describes the given asset.

15   Once the applicable sub-species category is determined, the given asset is designated as being

16   described by the applicable sub-species category. The fifth identifier corresponding to the

17   applicable sub-species category may then be assigned to the given asset and the first, second,

18   third, fourth and fifth identifiers may be combined to further define the identifier code.

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